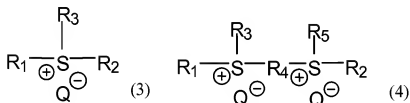
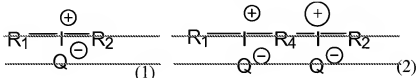


Amendments to the Claims

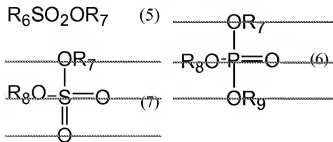
This is a complete listing of claims and supersedes all other listings:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing an onium salt derivative, characterized by comprising reacting an onium salt which has a halide Q as an anion moiety and which is represented by any one of formulas (3) or (4) (1) through (4):



wherein each of R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₅ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aromatic organic group, an aralkyl group, or a phenacyl group, each of these groups having ≤25 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted; one or both of the pairs of R₁ and R₃, and R₂ and R₅ may together form a divalent organic group; R₄ represents a C≤20 divalent organic group; and Q represents a halide anion,

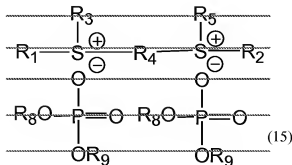
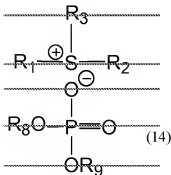
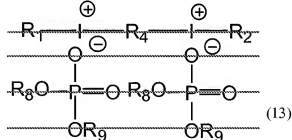
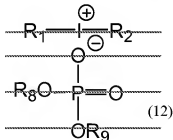
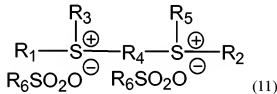
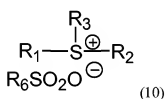
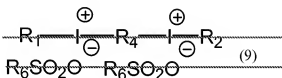
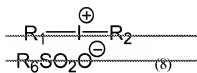
with an ester compound which has an alkyl group R₇ and which is represented by ~~any one~~ of formulas formula (5) through (7):

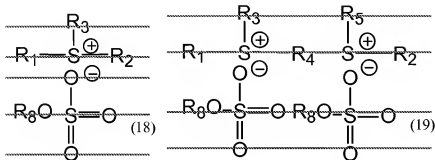
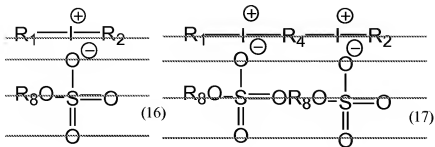


wherein R₆ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aromatic organic group, or an aralkyl group, each of these groups having ≤25 carbon atoms and being

optionally substituted; R_7 represents an alkyl group, having ≤ 5 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted; and each of R_8 and R_9 represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aralkyl group, each of these groups having ≤ 10 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted,

to thereby form R_7Q through nucleophilic attack by the halide Q on the alkyl group R_7 of the ester compound ~~compound~~, and to also produce an onium salt derivative which is formed of an anion represented by any one of $R_6SO_2O^-$, $PO_4R_8R_9^-$, and $R_8SO_4^-$ derived from the ester compound and an onium cation derived from the onium salt, an onium salt derivative represented by one of formulas (10) or (11) (8) through (19).





2. (canceled)

3. (original) A method for producing an onium salt derivative according to claim 1, wherein reaction is carried out while removing generated R_7Q from the reaction system.

4. (previously amended) A method for producing an onium salt derivative according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the reaction is carried out in a solvent.

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

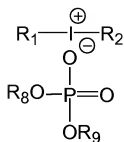
7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

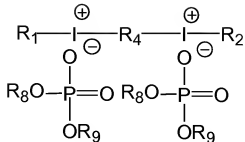
9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

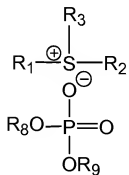
11. (Withdrawn) An onium compound which has a phosphate derivative as an anion moiety and which is represented by any one of formulas (12) through (15):



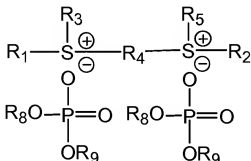
(12)



(13)



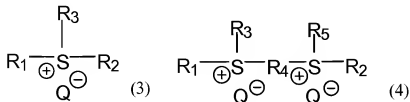
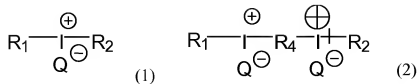
(14)



(15)

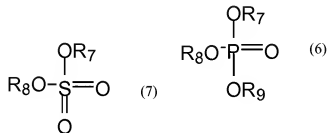
wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , and R_5 represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aromatic organic group, an aralkyl group, or a phenacyl group, each of these groups having ≤ 25 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted; one or both of the pairs of R_1 and R_3 , and R_2 and R_5 may together form a divalent organic group; R_4 represents a $C \leq 20$ divalent organic group; and each of R_8 and R_9 represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aralkyl group, each of these groups having ≤ 10 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted.

12. (withdrawn) A method for producing an onium salt derivative, characterized by comprising reacting an onium salt which has a halide Q as an anion moiety and which is represented by any one of the following formulas (1) through (4):



wherein each of R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₅ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aromatic organic group, an aralkyl group, or a phenacyl group, each of these groups having ≤25 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted; one or both of the pairs of R₁ and R₃, and R₂ and R₅ may together form a divalent organic group; R₄ represents a C≤20 divalent organic group; and Q represents a halide anion,

with an ester compound which has an alkyl group R₇ and which is represented by any one of formulas (6) or (7):



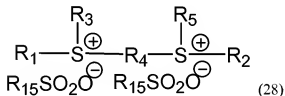
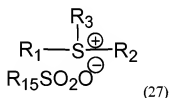
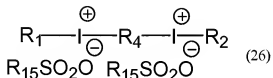
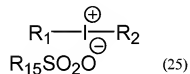
wherein R₇ represents an alkyl group, having ≤5 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted; and each of R₈, and R₉ represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aralkyl group, each of these groups having ≤10 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted;

to thereby form R₇-Q through nucleophilic attack by the halide Q on the alkyl group R₇ of the ester compound, and to also produce an onium salt derivative which is formed of an anion represented by PO₃R₈R₉⁻ or R₈SO₄⁻ derived from the ester compound and an onium cation derived from the onium salt; and reacting the onium salt derivative with a sulfonic acid derivative represented by formula (24):



wherein R_{15} represents an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aromatic organic group, or an aralkyl group, each of these groups having ≤ 25 carbon atoms and being optionally substituted; and Y represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, or ammonium,

to thereby cause salt exchange and yield an onium salt derivative represented by one of formulas (25) through (28).



13. (withdrawn) A method for producing an onium salt derivative according to claim 12, wherein each of R_7 , R_8 and R_9 is a methyl group or an ethyl group.